

Prescribed Fire

OGDEN RANGER DISTRICT
Fall/Spring 2005/2006
Wasatch-Cache
National Forest



Aerial Ignition, Monte Cristo Unit A, October 2004

*Monte Cristo and Curtis
Aspen Prescribed Fires To
Reduce Hazardous Fuels &
Enhance Wildlife Habitat*

If you would like more information about
the prescribed fires planned on the
Ogden Ranger District please visit
www.fs.fed.us/r4/wcnf or call (801) 625-5112



Monte Cristo, Unit B Drip Torch Hand Ignition

PREScribed FIRES

We know that fire is essential to the health of our forest and rangelands. Since conditions in many areas are conducive to large, severe wildland fires, and because so many people now live in or near forest and rangelands, we need fires to burn at cooler temperatures and lower intensities. By igniting prescribed fires, we can maximize the chance that they will burn on our terms with acceptable effects.

Prescribed fire is one tool used by fire managers to reduce hazardous fuels, restore ecosystem health and improve the quality of watersheds and wildlife habitat.

A prescribed fire only occurs when the temperature, humidity, wind speed and fuel moistures are within the prescribed fire plan objectives.

Prescribed fires will be ignited when predicted weather and fuel conditions allow for minimized smoke impact on air quality and public health.

Prescribed fires can be ignited by hand, using drip torches or by air using helicopters to drop incendiary devices.

In order to restore fire to its natural role in forests and rangeland, we ignite prescribed fires in the spring and fall when weather conditions allow for slow, low intensity burning to protect the vegetation and soil.

Specific management objectives may be to reduce the fuels and/or create a mosaic pattern in the vegetation to create cover, forage, and browse areas for wildlife.

MONTE CRISTO PRESCRIBED FIRE

The Monte Cristo prescribed fire consists of nine units totaling approximately 2,600 acres of aspen, mixed conifers and mountain brush. The area is located primarily south and east of Highway 39, approximately 13 miles west of Woodruff, Utah, and 35 miles east of Ogden, Utah.

Black lining was accomplished on Units A and G in the fall of 2004. Depending on weather conditions, lighting of this prescribed fire could take place anytime from early fall 2005 to late fall 2006.

The purpose of the fire is to improve aspen regeneration and wildlife habitat. Additional benefits include re-vegetation to lower the risk of insect and disease and to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires through the reduction of hazardous fuels.



Monte Cristo Black Lining Highway 39 With Tera-Torch

CURTIS ASPEN PRESCRIBED FIRE

The Curtis Aspen prescribed fire consists of 5 units totaling 2,160 acres of aspen, mixed conifers and mountain brush. The fire is located in the Curtis Ridge area north of Highway 39, approximately 20 miles west of Randolph, Utah.

The purpose of the fire is to stimulate aspen regeneration and wildlife habitat. Additional benefits include regeneration of vegetation to lower the risk of insect epidemics and disease and reduce hazardous fuels to lower the risk of having high-intensity wildfires.

Depending on weather conditions, lighting of this prescribed fire could take place anytime from early fall 2005 to late fall 2006.



Fire Preparation Curtis Aspen, March 2005

Prescribed fire and wildland fire use provide for ecosystem maintenance and restoration consistent with land uses and historic fire regimes. Fuels are managed to reduce the risk of damage to private property and to provide for public and firefighter safety by lowering the risk of catastrophic wildfires.

These prescribed fires are the first phases of a multi-year plan that reintroduces fire back into the ecosystem for re-vegetation and to reduce hazardous fuels near communities at risk as part of the revised Wasatch-Cache National Forest Management Plan.

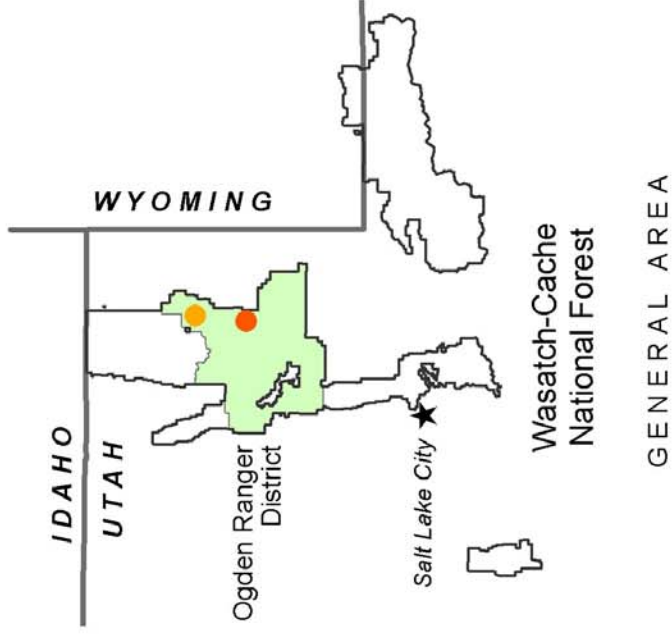
The majority of the brush communities in the fire areas are approaching late seral stages due to a lack of natural disturbances. In addition, grazing, fire suppression, and other management practices have changed the forest structure and composition, causing a decline in the ecological health of the forests.

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Wasatch-Cache National Forest Ogden Ranger District Prescribed Fire Projects Fall 2004/Spring 2005

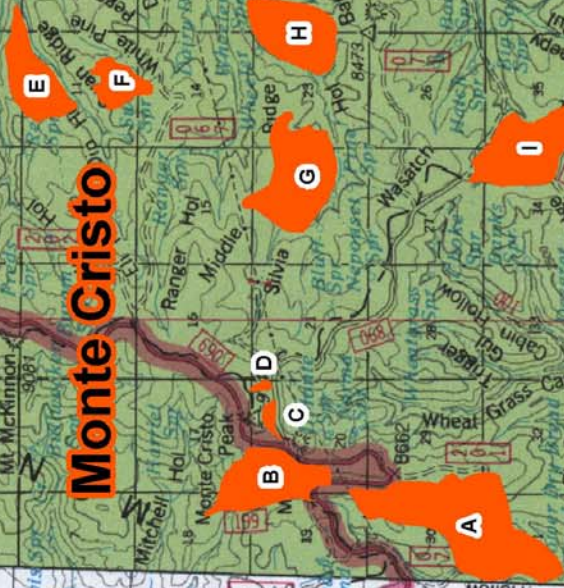
0 0.5 1 2 Miles



Curtis Aspen



Monte Cristo



The 1993 Visitor Map is being used as the background / location information. Land status information is current as of 1992. Please contact the Forest for more current information.